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hey thing, bring up the text or genisis chapter 3 new king james version and another random one for comparason

Here's **Genesis chapter 3** from the **New King James Version (NKJV)**, the formal but readable update to the classic KJV:

Genesis 3 (NKJV) The Temptation and Fall of Man

1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; 3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'"

4 Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

9 Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?"

10 So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."

11 And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?"

12 Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."

13 And the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

14 So the Lord God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; on your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life. 15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

16 To the woman He said: “I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in pain you shall bring forth children; your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”

17 Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat of it’: Cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. 18 Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. 19 In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”

20 And Adam called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

21 Also for Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.

22 Then the Lord God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”— 23 therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. 24 So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

For comparison, here's the same chapter from **The Message** (MSG), a contemporary paraphrase by Eugene Peterson that uses everyday, vivid language:

Genesis 3 (The Message) 1 The serpent was clever, more clever than any wild animal God had made. He spoke to the Woman: “Do I understand that God told you not to eat from any tree in the garden?”

2-3 The Woman said to the serpent, “Not at all. We can eat from the trees in the garden. It’s only about the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, ‘Don’t eat from it; don’t even touch it or you’ll die.’”

4-5 The serpent told the Woman, “You won’t die. God knows that the moment you eat from that tree, you’ll see what’s really going on. You’ll be just like God, knowing everything, ranging all the way from good to evil.”

6 When the Woman saw that the tree looked like good eating and realized what she would get out of it—she’d know everything!—she took and ate the fruit and then gave some to her husband, and he ate.

7 Immediately the two of them did “see what’s really going on”—saw themselves naked! They sewed fig leaves together and made makeshift clothes.

8 Then they heard the sound of God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze. The man and his wife, staggered by what they had done, hid in the trees of the garden from God.

9 God called to the Man: “Where are you?”

10 He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden. I was afraid because I was naked. And I hid.”

11 God said, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from that tree I told you not to eat from?”

12 The Man said, “The Woman you gave me as a companion, she gave me fruit from the tree, and, yes, I ate it.”

13 God said to the Woman, “What is this that you’ve done?” “The serpent seduced me,” she said, “and I ate.”

14-15 God told the serpent: “Because you’ve done this, you’re cursed, cursed beyond all cattle and wild animals, cursed to slink on your belly and eat dirt all your life. I’m declaring war between you and the Woman, between your offspring and hers. He’ll wound your head, you’ll wound his heel.”

16 He told the Woman: “I’ll multiply your pains in childbirth; you’ll give birth to your babies in pain. You’ll want to please your husband, but he’ll lord it over you.”

17-19 To Adam he said, “Because you listened to Eve your wife and ate from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from, the ground is cursed. It’s through hard work you will eat food every day of your life. The ground will sprout thorns and weeds, you’ll get your food the hard way, planting and tilling and harvesting, sweating in the fields from dawn to dusk, until you return to that ground yourself, dead and buried; you started out as dirt, you’ll end up dirt.”

20 The Man named his wife Eve (Life) because she was the mother of all the living.

21 God made leather clothing for Adam and his wife and dressed them.

22 Then God said, “The Man has become like one of us, now knowing good and evil. What if he now should reach out and take fruit from the Tree-of-Life and eat, and live forever? Never—this cannot happen!”

23-24 So God expelled them from the Garden of Eden and sent them to work the ground, the same dirt out of which they’d been made. He threw them out of the Garden and posted Angel-cherubim and a blazing sword, turning every way, to protect the Tree-of-Life.

The NKJV keeps a more literal, traditional style close to the original Hebrew, while The Message turns it into modern storytelling prose for easier flow and impact. Let me know if you'd like a different version for comparison (like NIV, ESV, or KJV)!

30 sources

can you bring up bibilical references to a bronze serpent/snake

The main biblical references to the **bronze serpent** (also called brazen serpent, copper serpent, or **Nehushtan**) center on a key event during the Israelites' wilderness wanderings, with later mentions showing its fate and symbolic meaning.

Primary Account: Numbers 21:4-9 (NKJV)

This is the original event where God instructs Moses to make the bronze serpent as a means of healing from deadly snake bites (sent as judgment for the people's grumbling).

> 4 Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way. 5 And the people spoke against God and against Moses: “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless manna.” 6 So the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died. 7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord that He take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. 8 Then the Lord said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live.” 9 So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

(Note: Some translations use "fiery serpent" for the venomous snakes and "bronze serpent" for the one Moses made. The healing came through faith—simply looking at it in obedience.)

Later Reference: 2 Kings 18:4 (NKJV)

Centuries later, the object had been preserved but turned into an idol (people burned incense to it). King Hezekiah, in his reforms against idolatry, destroyed it and contemptuously called it **Nehushtan** (meaning something like "a mere piece of bronze").

> He removed the high places and broke the sacred pillars, cut down the wooden image and broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made; for until those days the children of Israel burned incense to it, and called it Nehushtan.

This shows how even a God-ordained symbol can become misused and idolatrous over time.

New Testament Reference: John 3:14-15 (NKJV)

Jesus directly refers to the bronze serpent as a **type** or foreshadowing of His own crucifixion and the salvation available through faith in Him.

> 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

This ties into the famous John 3:16 that follows, emphasizing looking to Jesus (in faith) for eternal life, just as the Israelites looked to the bronze serpent for physical healing from judgment.

These are the direct biblical mentions—no other passages describe additional bronze serpents or snakes in this specific context. The story is often used to illustrate themes of sin, judgment, faith, healing, and redemption. Let me know if you'd like it in a different translation or more commentary!

35 sources

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